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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/300,845	04/28/99	SATO	H 684.2834

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EXAMINER

LEE, H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2877

DATE MAILED: 01/17/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/300,845

Applicant(s)

Sat

Examiner

Andr w H. Lee

Group Art Unit

2877



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 20, 2000

☐ This action is FINAL.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the applicat

Of the above, claim(s) 8 is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to.

☐ Claims are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received:

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 5

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restriction***

1. Claim 8 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected manufacturing method, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 7.
2. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I (claims 1-7) in Paper No. 7 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the relationship between Group I and Group II is not a "product" and "process for use," and on the grounds that the two groups would not require a different search. This is not found persuasive because claim 8 recites in the first limitation that the product (exposure apparatus) is used. Furthermore, the search for Group I is different from Group II in that the search for claims 2-7 are not required and that the search for Group II is not require for Group I in that Group II is a method claim depending on an apparatus claim. Furthermore, the applicant has not shown how the examiner is mistaken in showing the process for using the product can be practiced with another materially different product as shown the restriction requirement.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites "...with a distance from an optical axis" which is vague in that it does not tell from where the distance is measured to the optical axis.

Claim 4 recites "in the same direction." It is unclear which direction this is referring to.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kudo (5,798,824).

Kudo describes an exposure apparatus comprising:

an illumination optical system (1,2);

a projection optical system (5,6);

measuring means for measuring angular distribution of the illumination light (12); and

first adjusting means for changing angular distribution of the illumination light.(11-14).

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technology Center (TC) 2800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to TC 2800 via the PTO Fax Center located in

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CP4-4C23. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CP4 Fax Center number is (703)308-7722 or 308-7724.

If the Applicant wishes to send a Fax dealing with either a Proposed Amendment or for discussion for a phone interview then the fax should:

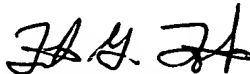
- a) Contain either the statement "DRAFT" or "PROPOSED AMENDMENT" on the Fax Cover Sheet; and
- b) Should be unsigned by the attorney or agent.

This will ensure that it will not be entered into the case and will be forwarded to the examiner as quickly as possible.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew H. Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-0538.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Andrew Lee  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2877  
January 04, 2001/ahl

  
Frank Font  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2877